

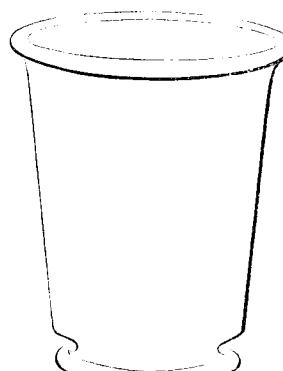
anal blade into the rectum, then the vaginal blade into the vagina; then fasten the two together by means of the screw. Be particular to keep the blades parallel with the axis of the pelvis, and never thrust them forward with inconsiderate haste. The tip of the vaginal blade can be placed higher or lower, as circumstances may require. If the fundus uteri has sunk low between the rectum and vagina, it will be best to shove up the movable blade, so that the two tips shall be nearly on a level. In this position of the tips, it is intended that the space between them shall only be sufficient for the vagina and rectum, without pressing them—a space not exceeding three-eighths of an inch. If the fundus uteri does not lie low, or if the instrument has been carried up as high as the vagina will easily admit, loosen the screw, and, without allowing the vaginal blade to retreat, carry up the anal blade in such a manner as to throw the fundus forward into its natural position. Cases may occur where it would be desirable and convenient to use either of the blades separately. Should it be found desirable to place the tips at a greater or less distance from each other, than can be done by the slide, this can readily be accomplished by placing a small wedge under either end of the sliding groove.

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ART. IX.—*Extraction of a glass goblet from the Rectum—Fracture of the Penis.* Cases reported by W. S. W. RUSCHENBERGER, M. D., U. S. Navy, Fleet Surgeon for the East India Squadron. (With a wood-cut.)

WHILE recently on a visit to Canton, I derived the history of the following cases from the notes and verbal explanations of the Rev. PETER PARKER, M. D., Chief of the "Ophthalmic Hospital," &c., under whose notice they fell. Both cases seem to me so unusual, that I avail myself of Dr. Parker's consent, and submit them for publication. The first case affords us a glance at the debauchery practiced by a portion of the Chinese population about Canton.

On the records of the hospital, the case numbers 23,930. *Glass goblet extracted from the Rectum.*—In the evening of the 1st March, 1848, a young man, very respectable in appearance, solicited Dr. Parker's aid for his father, whom he had brought to the hospital. With many expressions, indicative of his sense of shame and mortification, he related that Loo, his father, then sixty years of age, had spent the preceding night in one of the "flower boats," or floating brothels on the river, with a prostitute. Under the insane excitement or intoxication produced by the combined influence of drinking spirituous liquors, and smoking opium, the lecherous sufferer, in mischievous frolic, forced a glass goblet, of the form and size indicated in the accompanying diagram, into the vagina of the companion of his sports. In the course of the night, Loo fell into



Diameter of brim, 2½ inches.  
Height, 3½ inches.  
Diameter of base, 1½ inches.

a state of unconsciousness, when the woman sought her revenge. She carefully insinuated the base of the goblet within his anus, and then placing the end of her opium-pipe—a cylinder about an inch in diameter, and a foot and a half in length—at the bottom of the goblet on the inside, suddenly pushed it into the rectum, entirely above the sphincter. Twenty-four hours had elapsed since its introduction. An angle of about a half inch of the rolled lip of the glass had been broken out by efforts made by friends to remove it.

Such was the report of the case when brought to the hospital for relief.

On examination, the glass was found firmly fixed in its position; it was very difficult to pass the extremity of the finger beyond its lip, betwixt its outside and the rectum. In Dr. Parker's opinion, it was impossible to extract it entire; and, therefore, though anticipating difficulty and danger in the operation, he determined to break it down. By means of forceps, such as used by obstetricians in breaking up the fetal cranium, commencing on the side nearest the pubis, he broke up the goblet and extracted it piece by piece, carefully guarding the parts by folds of cotton cloth as he proceeded, and removing the small sharp fragments which fell, with a teaspoon. After the bowl, or bell portion was removed, the most difficult part of the operation remained to be performed, for the hemorrhage was free, and the base of the goblet, with the sharp points of the sessile stem, resulting from the fracture, was high up in the rectum, and firmly embraced in a transverse position. Assisted by the bearing-down of the patient, the edge of the base was reached by the point of a finger, and with difficulty turned edgewise, guarding against fractured points by pledgets; then, by pressing the smooth side, or bottom of the glass against the rectum, it was at last extracted. Remaining fragments were sought for, and the intestine thoroughly washed out. To arrest the hemorrhage, which was considerable, strong solutions of sulphate of copper, and of alum, were injected, and temporarily confined in the rectum, by pressing a sponge against the anus. For a time the bleeding ceased; but during the night, several ounces of coagulated blood were evacuated; afterwards, there was no more hemorrhage.

The operation occupied an hour and a half. An opiate was administered, and the patient placed in bed. The general treatment consisted in rest, laxatives, and light diet; the rectum was occasionally injected with tepid water, and solutions of nitrate of silver.

On the fourteenth day the case was discharged, cured.

*Fracture of the Penis.*—A young man, native of Canton, applied to Dr. Parker for relief. He had been married about eight months. On the nuptial night, he met with insurmountable difficulty in his attempt to establish sexual intercourse with his bride, and in an effort, on that occasion, sustained a severe, and most probably, irreparable injury, which caused great pain. Since that night, erection of the penis is limited to about a half an inch of its root, the extremity of the organ, with its glans, hanging flaccid.

On examination, a well-defined, transverse space, through the corpora cavernosa, about a half inch from the pubis, the site of fracture, was found to separate the penis into two parts.

No attempt was made to remedy this serious misfortune.

*U. S. Flag Ship Plymouth, Macao, October 15th, 1848.*